Office of National Drug Control Policy

Drug Policy Information Clearinghouse

State of New Hampshire

Profile of Drug Indicators

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ONDCP Drug Policy Information Clearinghouse staff compiled this profile by using the most recent data available from open sources. The data presented are as accurate as the sources from which they were drawn. The information contained in this profile should not be used to rank or compare States or jurisdictions, due to differences in data collection and reporting methods.

New Hampshire

The following profile contains information on demographics, political figures, programs, crime, drug use, drug trafficking, and enforcement statistics.

Demographics¹

- Population: 1,259,181 (2001 estimate); 1,235,786 (2000 Census)
- Race/Ethnicity (2000 Census): 95.1% white; 0.7% black/African American; 0.2% American Indian/Alaska Native; 1.3% Asian; 0.0% Native Hawaiian/other Pacific Islander; 0.1% other race; 0.9% two or more races; 1.7% Hispanic/Latino origin (of any race)

Politics

- ➤ Governor: Craig Benson²
- > Acting Attorney General: Stephen Judge³
- > Secretary of State: William Gardner⁴
- ➤ U.S. Senate: Robert Smith (R), Judd Gregg (R)⁵
- ➤ U.S. House of Representatives (Districts 1-2, respectively): Jeb Bradley (R); Charles F. Bass (R)⁶
- ➤ Capital: Concord⁷

Programs/Initiatives

- ➢ High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA)⁸
 Designated in 1999, the New England HIDTA is responsible for areas in Massachusetts, Connecticut, Rhode Island, Vermont, Maine, and Hillsborough County in New Hampshire. This HIDTA was designated in part because of the high purity heroin found throughout New England and the criminal groups trafficking heroin and crack from New York to New England. The primary mission of this HIDTA is to target, investigate and prosecute violent criminal offenders, especially those from New York, responsible for the distribution of high purity heroin, cocaine, and crack
- Commission on Alcohol and Drug Abuse Prevention, Intervention, and Treatment The purpose of the Governor's Commission is to significantly reduce alcohol and drug problems and their behavioral, health, and social consequences. The Commission advises the Governor regarding policy, funding, and the delivery of effective, efficient coordinated alcohol and drug abuse prevention and treatment services.
- Partnership for a Drug-Free New Hampshire ¹⁰
 Launched in 1994 as part of the national Partnership for a Drug-Free America, the Partnership for a Drug-Free New Hampshire develops and distributes anti-drug messages and works with New Hampshire's media outlets to air and publish the messages and resources.
- Impaired Driving Intervention Program¹¹
 The Impaired Driving Intervention Program provides drug-related education and counseling to individuals who have substance abuse-related driving convictions.
 There are three types of services offered: First Offender Programs; Phase II Programs

for Repeat First Offenders; and Multiple Offender Programs for second or subsequent offenders.

➤ New Futures¹²

The mission of New Futures is to foster, promote, and support effective strategies to reduce alcohol, tobacco, and other drug problems in New Hampshire. New Futures focuses on two goals: the reduction of underage alcohol problems and an increase in access to drug/alcohol treatment.

Federal Funding

- ➤ Drug-Free Communities Support Program grantees in New Hampshire: ¹³
 - FY 2002: no New Hampshire grantees
 - FY 2001
 - \$100,000 to the Caring Community Network of the Twin Rivers, Manchester
 - \$100,000 to the Concord Community Substance Abuse Prevention Coalition, Concord
 - \$60,189 to the Dover Coalition for Youth, Dover
 - \$53,591 to the Community Health in Progress Coalition, North Conway
 - FY 2000 and FY 1999: no New Hampshire grantees
 - FY 1998
 - \$100,000 to Makin' It Happen Coalition for Resilient Youth, Manchester
- Executive Office for Weed and Seed¹⁴
 There are no sites in New Hampshire that have received Federal funding and official recognition as Weed and Seed sites.
- ➤ FY 2001/2002 Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) Formula and Discretionary Grant Summary for New Hampshire:¹⁵
 - Formula Funding \$8,657,775
 - Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Block Grant \$6,468,750
 - Community Mental Health Services Block Grant \$1,504,125
 - Projects for Assistance in Transition from Homelessness (PATH) \$300,000
 - Protection and Advocacy Formula Grant \$384,900
 - Discretionary Funding \$3,057,101
 - Mental Health \$2,432,705
 - Substance Prevention \$349,396
 - Substance Abuse Treatment \$275,000
 - Total Mental Health Funds: \$4,621,730
 - Total Substance Abuse Funds: \$7,093,146
 - Total SAMHSA Funds for New Hampshire: \$11,714,876
- > FY 2002 Byrne Formula Grant Program amount awarded to New Hampshire: \$3,052,472¹⁶
- ➤ FY 2002 Residential Substance Abuse Treatment for State Prisoners Formula Grant amount awarded to New Hampshire: \$349,605¹⁷
- ➤ There were no New Hampshire recipients of the FY 2002 Office of Justice Programs Drug Court Discretionary Grant. ¹⁸
- ➤ There were no New Hampshire recipients of the FY 2002 funding available from the Department of Justice's Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) to fight methamphetamine.¹⁹

There were no New Hampshire recipients of the FY 2001 Housing and Urban Development Federally-Assisted Low Income Drug Elimination grants.²⁰

Crime and Drug-Related Crime

➤ The Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) reported 46 drug arrests in New Hampshire during 2001.²¹

Number of DEA Drug Arrests, New Hampshire, 1997-2001

Year	Arrests
1997	57
1998	73
1999	67
2000	104
2001	46

➤ During 2001, there were 2,763 State and local arrests for drug abuse violations in New Hampshire. ²²

Number of Arrests, Selected Offenses, New Hampshire, 2001

Offense Type	Juveniles	Total All Ages
Murder/non-negligent manslaughter	0	2
Forcible rape	17	54
Robbery	17	72
Aggravated assault	58	264
Burglary	112	279
Larceny-theft	673	1,531
Motor vehicle theft	86	144
Arson	15	27
Drug abuse violations	652	2,763
Driving under the influence	82	3,005
Liquor laws	516	2,553
Drunkenness	759	4,034

Drugs

Cocaine

Although kilogram quantities of cocaine are available, cocaine is usually encountered in smaller, retail quantities within the State. Crack cocaine use primarily occurs in and around the larger cities in New Hampshire and along the southern border of the State.²³ In the first quarter of FY 2002, powdered cocaine sold for \$80-\$100 per gram and was 20-30% pure. Crack cocaine sold for \$20-\$50 per rock.²⁴

Heroin

There has been an increase in heroin availability along the seacoast and in the southeast region of the State.²⁵ This substance has emerged as the most significant drug threat to New Hampshire. High purity, low cost heroin is attracting a new user

population: young adults who snort or smoke the drug instead of inject it. In the first quarter of FY 2002, heroin sold for \$7-\$20 per bag.²⁶

> Marijuana

Almost all of the foreign origin marijuana available in New Hampshire originates in Mexico. Domestically produced marijuana is also available in the State as is high potency, Canadian-produced marijuana (BC Bud). THC content in excess of 22% has been found in the area.²⁷ In the first quarter of FY 2002, commercial grade marijuana sold for \$900-\$2,200 per pound, sinsemilla sold for \$2,500-\$3,000 per pound, and a marijuana joint sold for \$5.²⁸

> Medical Marijuana

In March 2001, the New Hampshire House of Representatives rejected a bill (by a vote of 223 to 101) that would have legalized marijuana for medical purposes.²⁹

➤ Methamphetamine

There has been a growth in the availability of methamphetamine in the State, particularly in and around the seacoast area.³⁰ In the first quarter of FY 2002, methamphetamine sold for \$150 per gram at the retail level.³¹

Club Drugs

There has been a rapid increase in the availability of MDMA in New Hampshire, particularly among students and in association with the rave scene.³² In the first quarter of FY 2002, MDMA sold for \$7 per tablet at the wholesale level and \$20 per tablet at the retail level. Powdered MDMA is available in the Seacoast region and sells for \$150 per gram.³³

> Other Drugs

Oxycodone (OxyContin) and methylphenidate hydrochloride (Ritalin) are the most commonly diverted and abused pharmaceuticals in New Hampshire. In April 2002, OxyContin sold for \$1 per milligram of active ingredient (\$80 for an 80-milligram tablet) and Ritalin sold for \$4-\$6 per tablet.³⁴

- ➤ Between November 27 and December 15, 2001, more than four hundred New Hampshire adults were interviewed for New Futures to determine resident attitudes concerning alcohol and other drugs. Results of the interviews include the following:³⁵
 - 71% felt that drug and alcohol misuse in New Hampshire is a serious problem;
 - 77% view alcohol and other drug addiction as a chronic disease condition that is best handled by treatment programs rather than the criminal justice system (12%);
 - 82% personally know someone who has had an alcohol and/or drug problem
- ➤ According to 1999-2000 data from the National Household Survey on Drug Abuse, approximately 33% of New Hampshire citizens ages 12 and older felt that smoking marijuana once a month posed a great risk. ³⁶

Percent of Citizens Reporting Drug Use, by Age, New Hampshire, 1999-2000 Data

	12-17	18-25	26 +	All ages
Past month use of any illicit drug	12.68%	19.76%	3.73%	6.55%
Past month use of marijuana	10.73	18.74	3.39	5.96
Past month use of illicit drug other than marij.	5.58	7.30	1.58	2.67
Past year cocaine use	1.82	4.99	0.80	1.40
Great risk of smoking marijuana once a month	29048	18.57	36.12	33.36

According to 2000 data from the National Household Survey on Drug Abuse, approximately 1% of New Hampshire citizens reported past year dependence on illicit drugs.³⁷

Percent of Citizens Reporting Dependence, New Hampshire, 2000

	12-17	18-25	26 +	All ages
Illicit drug dependence	3.00%	4.17%	0.56%	1.25%
Illicit drug dependence or abuse	6.98	6.48	0.91	2.21
Alcohol dependence	1.95	5.72	1.89	2.36
Alcohol dependence or abuse	7.55	16.81	4.55	6.33
Alcohol or illicit drug dependence or abuse	9.50	18.14	5.03	7.06

Juveniles

➤ Nearly 45% of New Hampshire high school students surveyed in 2001 reported using marijuana at least once during their lifetimes.³⁸

Percent of High School Students Reporting Drug Use, by Gender, New Hampshire, 2001

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	Female	Male	Total		
Lifetime marijuana use	42.4%	47.1%	44.6%		
Current marijuana use	25.4	31.6	28.4		
Lifetime cocaine use	10.3	11.4	10.9		
Current cocaine use	4.2	4.9	4.7		
Lifetime inhalant use	14.5	16.0	15.3		
Current inhalant use	4.3	6.7	5.6		
Lifetime heroin use	3.3	4.4	4.0		
Lifetime illegal steroid use	4.2	6.0	5.3		
Lifetime injecting illegal drug use	2.1	3.1	2.8		
Tried marijuana before age 13	9.8	14.4	12.1		

More than half of 11th and 12th grade New Hampshire students reported using marijuana at least once in their lifetimes.³⁹

Percent of High School Students Reporting Drug Use, by Grade, New Hampshire, 2001

Drug Type and Use	9th Grade	10th Grade	11th Grade	12th Grade
Lifetime marijuana use	30.3%	44.7%	55.6%	58.5%
Current marijuana use	19.4	28.5	36.2	35.0
Lifetime cocaine use	8.8	10.3	12.4	14.6
Current cocaine use	4.2	4.6	4.7	4.9
Lifetime inhalant use	13.5	20.0	10.5	14.4
Current inhalant use	4.5	8.6	2.7	4.1
Lifetime heroin use	5.0	2.6	2.7	7.5
Lifetime illegal steroid use	5.2	5.1	4.1	7.5
Lifetime injecting illegal drug use	3.2	1.3	2.0	6.2
Tried marijuana before age 13	12.4	10.5	12.2	14.8

Approximately 33.5% of ninth graders, 34.3% of tenth graders, 30.2% of eleventh graders, and 33.1% of twelfth graders reported being offered, sold, or given an illegal drug by someone on school property within the past year.⁴⁰

Enforcement

- New Hampshire Drug Task Force (DTF)⁴¹
 The New Hampshire DTF was created in 1986 within the New Hampshire Attorney General's Office to combat the increasing effects illicit drugs were having on New Hampshire. The DTF consists of investigators from the Attorney General's Office as well as police officers from local, county, and State police departments.
- ➤ New England HIDTA initiative found in New Hampshire:⁴²
 - Northern New England HIDTA Task Force: This State, Federal, and local task force targets drug distributors in Hillsborough County, New Hampshire.
- Operation Jetway is a DEA sponsored airport interdiction program at New Hampshire's Manchester Municipal Airport. 43
- As of October 31, 2001, there were 2,704 full-time law enforcement employees in New Hampshire. 44

Trafficking and Seizures

- ➤ Local independent African American dealers and Dominican criminal groups typically transport crack cocaine into New Hampshire. Local independent Caucasian dealers transport powdered cocaine into the State.⁴⁵
- ➤ Local independent Caucasian dealers obtain South American heroin from Dominican criminal groups based in Massachusetts and New York and transport the drug back to New Hampshire for retail distribution. 46
- Mexican criminal groups transport most of the marijuana available in New Hampshire from Mexico and southwest border states using private and commercial vehicles, package delivery services, and couriers aboard commercial aircraft.⁴⁷
- ➤ Local Caucasian criminal groups and independent Caucasian dealers obtain MDMA from cities such as New York and Boston and transport the drug into New Hampshire using private vehicles. 48
- During 2001, Federal agencies seized 3.7 kilograms of cocaine in New Hampshire. 49
- From 1996 to 2001, the DEA and State and local authorities in New Hampshire seized four methamphetamine labs: one in 1998, one in 2000, and two in 2001.⁵⁰
- ➤ In 2001, there were 900 marijuana plants eradicated and seized in New Hampshire under the DEA Domestic Cannabis Eradication/Suppression Program. ⁵¹

Marijuana Plants Eradicated and Seized, New Hampshire, 2001

Outdoo	or Oper.	Indoor (Indoor Operations		
	Cultivated				Total
Plots	Plants	Grows	Plants	Ditchweed	Plants
Eradicated	Eradicated	Seized	Eradicated	Eradicated	Eradicated
31	686	12	214	200	900

Courts

- ➤ Drug Courts⁵²
 - As of November 26, 2002, there were four drug courts in New Hampshire that had recently been implemented. There were no additional drug courts in existence or being planned in New Hampshire at that time.
- ➤ During FY 2001, 46.7% of the Federally sentenced defendants in New Hampshire had committed drug offenses. Approximately 59% of the drug offenses involved crack cocaine. 53

Federally-Sentenced Drug Offenders, New Hampshire, FY 2001

Drug Type	Number	Percent
Crack cocaine	37	58.7%
Marijuana	11	17.5
Powder cocaine	9	14.3
Methamphetamine	5	7.9
Heroin	0	0.0
Other	1	1.6

Corrections

- ➤ The New Hampshire Department of Corrections is made up of four State Prison Facilities: State Prison for Men (located in Concord); State Prison for Women (Goffstown); Northern New Hampshire Correctional Facility (Berlin); and the Lakes Region Facility (Laconia). 54
- ➤ The New Hampshire Department of Corrections Drug Testing Lab (DTL) conducts drug tests to find drugs of abuse and to detect possible attempts to adulterate/dilute urine samples. The DTL runs approximately 3,000 samples each month and conducts eleven tests per sample. Between January and June 2001, positive rates ranged from 7.7% to 8.4%. 55

Drug Test Results, New Hampshire, January-June 2001

Test Month	Specimens Collected	# of Positive Results	% of Positive Results
January	3,275	276	8.4
February	2,460	206	8.4
March	2,765	231	8.4
April	2,989	229	7.7
May	3,461	287	8.3
June	2,758	218	7.9

At the end of 2001, there were an estimated 3,665 adults on probation and 953 adults on parole in New Hampshire. 56

Consequences of Use

➤ The New Hampshire Office of Chief Medical Examiner reported that heroin was a factor in over 50% of the 30 drug-related deaths reported in the State during FY 2000.⁵⁷

Treatment

- ➤ Results of New Futures interview concerning treatment in New Hampshire:⁵⁸
 - 69% of those interviewed think treatment is somewhat successful and 4% think it is very successful;
 - 53% believe there are adequate treatment services available in the State;
 - 45% say there is a formal program for employees who have drug and/or alcohol problems at their place of employment;
 - 47% strongly favor and another 21% somewhat favor a tax increase on alcohol to pay for increased funding of alcohol and drug treatment programs.
- During 2000, approximately 4,400 people were admitted to drug/alcohol treatment in New Hampshire.⁵⁹

Number of Admissions to Treatment, New Hampshire, 2000

Drug Type	Number of Admissions	Percent of Total
Alcohol only	1,529	34.7
Alcohol with secondary drug	1,215	27.6
Cocaine – smoked	140	3.2
Cocaine – other route of administration	119	2.7
Marijuana	840	19.1
Heroin	230	5.2
Other opiates	55	1.2
PCP	3	0.1
Hallucinogens	13	0.3
Amphetamines	16	0.4
Other stimulants	30	0.7
Tranquilizers	12	0.3
Sedatives	4	0.1
Inhalants	1	0.0
Other	196	4.5
Total admissions	4,403	100.0

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